

In the Claims:

Please replace claims 1, 22, 45, 46 and 48 with the following claims as amended.
(The claims with the additions underlined and deletions bracketed are attached in Appendix A following the remarks.):

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1. (Amended) A multilayer packaging film having at least four layers arranged in sequence comprising:
- (1) a first layer comprising at least 50% by weight of a copolymer of propene, and at least one α -olefin selected from the group consisting of ethylene, butene-1, methylpentene-1, hexene-1, octene-1, decene-1 and mixtures thereof, said copolymer having a propene content of at least 60 wt. %, a T_m between about 100°C and about 145°C, a M_w/M_n of between 1 and 5, and n-hexane extractables of less than 5 wt. %;
- (2) second and fourth layers each comprising:
- (a) at least 10 wt. % of a first copolymer of ethylene and at least one $C_4 - C_8$ α -olefin, said copolymer having a density of from 0.900 to 0.915 g/cm³ and a melt index of less than 2 dg/min.,
- (b) at least 10 wt. % of a second copolymer of ethylene with from 4 to 18 wt. % of a vinyl ester, alkyl acrylate, acrylic or methacrylic acid, and
- (c) from 0 to 60 wt. % of a third copolymer of ethylene and at least one $C_3 - C_8$ α -olefin having a density less than 0.900 g/cm³ and a melting point of between 65-98°C; and
- (3) a third layer comprising at least 80% by weight of at least one copolymer of vinylidene chloride with from 2-20 wt. %, based on said copolymer, of vinyl chloride or methyl acrylate.
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22. (Amended) A multilayer biaxially oriented heat-shrinkable packaging film comprising:

- (1) a first layer comprising at least 50% by weight of a copolymer of propene, and at least one α -olefin selected from the group consisting of ethylene, butene-1, methylpentene-

1, hexene-1, octene-1, decene-1 and mixtures thereof, said copolymer having a propene content of at least 60 wt. %, a Tm between about 100°C and about 145°C, a Mw/Mn of between 1 and 5, and n-hexane extractables of less than 4 wt. %;

(2) a second layer comprising:

(a) at least 10 wt. % of a first copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₄ - C₈ α-olefin, said copolymer having a density of from 0.900 to 0.915 g/cm³ and a melt index of less than 2 dg/min.,

(b) at least 10 wt. % of a second copolymer of ethylene with from 4 to 18 wt. % of a vinyl ester, alkyl acrylate, acrylic or methacrylic acid, and

(c) from 0 to 60 wt. % of a third copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₃ - C₈ α-olefin having a density less than 0.900 g/cm³ and a melting point [less] of between 85-98°C.; and

(3) a transition layer between and in contact with said first layer and said second layer, the transition layer comprising:

(a) at least 20% by weight of a fourth copolymer of propene, and at least one α-olefin selected from the group consisting of ethylene, butene-1, methylpentene-1, hexene-1, octene-1, decene-1 and mixtures thereof, said copolymer having a propene content of at least 60 wt. %, a Tm between 100°C and 145°C, a Mw/Mn of between 1 and 5, and n-hexane extractables of less than 4 wt. %;

(b) at least 20% by weight of a fifth copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₄ - C₈ α-olefin, said copolymer having a density of from 0.900 to 0.915 g/cm³ and a melt index of less than 2 dg/min., and

(c) from 0 to 60 wt. % of a sixth copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₃ - C₈ α-olefin having a density less than 0.900 g/cm³ and a melting point of between 65-98°C.

45. (Amended) The film of claim 22 further comprising:

a third layer comprising:

at least 80% by weight of at least one copolymer of vinylidene chloride with from 2-20 wt. %, based on said copolymer, of vinyl chloride or methyl acrylate.

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46. (Amended) The film of claim 45 further comprising:

a fourth layer comprising:

- (a) at least 10 wt. % of a seventh copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₄ - C₈ α -olefin, said copolymer having a density of from 0.900 to 0.915 g/cm³ and a melt index of less than 2 dg/min.,
- (b) at least 10 wt. % of a eighth copolymer of ethylene with from 4 to 18 wt. % of a vinyl ester, alkyl acrylate, acrylic or methacrylic acid, and
- (c) from 0 to 60 wt. % of a ninth copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₃ - C₈ α -olefin having a density less than 0.900 g/cm³ and a melting point of between 65-98°C.

48. (Amended) A multilayer packaging film formable into a pouch by heat sealing for use in food preparation consisting essentially of:

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- (1) an inner sealing layer comprising at least 50% by weight of a copolymer of propene, and at least one α -olefin selected from the group consisting of ethylene, butene-1, methylpentene-1, hexene-1, octene-1, decene-1 and mixtures thereof, said copolymer having a propene content of at least 60 wt. %, a T_m between about 100°C and about 145°C, a Mw/Mn of between 1 and 5, and n-hexane extractables of less than 5 wt. %;
- (2) a second layer in contact with the inner sealing layer comprising:
- (a) at least 10 wt. % of a first copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₄ - C₈ α -olefin, said copolymer having a density of from 0.900 to 0.915 g/cm³ and a melt index of less than 2 dg/min.,
- (b) at least 10 wt. % of a second copolymer of ethylene with from 4 to 18 wt. % of a vinyl ester, alkyl acrylate, acrylic or methacrylic acid, and
- (c) from 0 to 60 wt. % of a third copolymer of ethylene and at least one C₃ - C₈ α -olefin having a density less than 0.900 g/cm³ and a melting point of between 65-98°C.;
- and
- (3) an optional third layer comprising a protective outer layer.

Please add the following new claims 81-99:

81. (New) The film of claim 1, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 20% at 90°C in at least one direction.

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82. (New) The film of claim 1, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 30% at 90°C in at least one direction.

83. (New) The film of claim 1, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 25% at 90°C in both directions.

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84. (New) The film of claim 1, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 30% at 90°C in a first direction and a shrinkage of more than 44% at 90°C in a second direction.

85. (New) The film of claim 1, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 32% at 90°C in a first direction and a shrinkage of more than 48% at 90°C in a second direction.

86. (New) The film of claim 1, wherein the film consists essentially of four layers.

87. (New) The film of claim 1, wherein the four layers are in said sequence and in contact.

88. (New) The film of claim 22, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 20% at 90°C in at least one direction.

89. (New) The film of claim 22, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 30% at 90°C in at least one direction.

90. (New) The film of claim 22, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 25% at 90°C in both directions.

91. (New) The film of claim 22, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 30% at 90°C in a first direction and a shrinkage of more than 44% at 90°C in a second direction.

92. (New) The film of claim 22, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 32% at 90°C in a first direction and a shrinkage of more than 48% at 90°C in a second direction.

93. (New) The film of claim 22, wherein the film excludes a core barrier layer.

94. (New) The film of claim 47, wherein the film consists essentially of said layers.

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95. (New) The film of claim 48, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 20% at 90°C in at least one direction.

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96. (New) The film of claim 48, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 30% at 90°C in at least one direction.

97. (New) The film of claim 48, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 25% at 90°C in both directions.

98. (New) The film of claim 48, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 30% at 90°C in a first direction and a shrinkage of more than 44% at 90°C in a second direction.

99. (New) The film of claim 48, wherein the film has a shrinkage of more than 32% at 90°C in a first direction and a shrinkage of more than 48% at 90°C in a second direction.

REMARKS

Claims 1-80 stand rejected. Claims 1, 22, 45, 46 and 48 have been amended as noted above. A copy of the amended claims with additions underlined and deletions bracketed are in Appendix A following these remarks. New claims 81-99 are presented. This amendment and new claims are fully supported by the specification and do not incorporate new matter. Support for the new claims may be found at least at pages 11, 14, 23 and 36.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 45 stand objected to for certain informalities relating to the inconsistent use of superscripts, subscripts and parentheses in the claims. Applicant respectfully asserts